

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING March 18, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mazza called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

- 2. "Sunshine Law" Announcement**-Adequate notice of this public meeting has been provided by the Annual Notice; posted on Union Township website, published in the Hunterdon County Democrat and Courier News; posted on the public bulletin board and on file in the Municipal Clerk's Office.

3. FLAG SALUTE**4. ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Mr. Severino	X	
Mr. Hirt	X	
Ms. McBride	X	
Mr. Bischoff	X	
Mr. Mazza	X	

Others present: J.P. Jost, Attorney, Robert Clerico, P.E., CFO Grace Brennan and Ella M. Ruta, Municipal Clerk

5. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

- Regular and Executive Session Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2015
- Special Budget Meeting Minutes of March 4, 2015

Mr. Bischoff made a minor correction to the Regular Meeting Minutes.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride	X		X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			
Mr. Mazza			X			

Motion carried with correction.

6. VISITORS - none**7. REPORTS RECEIVED – acknowledged**

- Road Dept.- Week Ending; 2/22/15; 2/27/15, 3/06/15
 - Animal Control Officer – February 2015
 - Zoning Officer – February 2015 – Mr. Bischoff commented on fees for zoning applications.
 - Municipal Court – February 2015
 - Engineer's Report
- Pilot Travel Centers – Inspection scheduled for tomorrow.
 - Frontage Road Bridge – Interim repair made – Permanent improvements will be made when weather improves.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING March 18, 2015

- Frontage Road Improvements – Called NJDOT regarding status of pending application for Discretionary Funds. Letter sent to Township – No monies will be forthcoming.
- 319 Grant – Spoke to NJ Water Supply representative about the Grant.
- Road-Asset Management Document Report – Issued a memorandum to the Committee. Met with Craig Hermann to review information he has on file. No information on road conditions. Limited information on road maintenance. Suggested that a pavement assessment plan be prepared. The following motion was introduced for approval:

To authorize Mr. Clerico to prepare Road Inventory and Mapping, Construction and Maintenance Data, work with the Mayor and Road Foreman to implement Paving Assessment as per his memo of March 13, 2015.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride	X		X			
Mr. Bischoff			X			
Mr. Mazza			X			

Motion carried

8. CORRESPONDENCE / WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Bischoff mentioned the following correspondence:

- Reform Recommendations to State Pension and Health Benefits
- Federal Transportation Funding Update
- Open Space, Farmland and Historic Preservation Funds
- Supreme Court Ruling re COAH
- SADC letter regarding Stothoff Farm

Mr. Severino mentioned the following correspondence:

- State Transportation Trust Fund

9. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. Heidi Budscok – Union Township Cub Scout Troop 119 – Asked for permission to park cars in the Municipal parking lot on April 25th and 26th, 2015. The Troop is traveling to Baltimore on those dates.

Motion to approve parking in the Municipal Parking Lot on the above-stated dates.

Voice Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X					
Mr. Hirt		X				
Ms. McBride						
Mr. Bischoff						
Mr. Mazza						

Motion carried by unanimous voice call vote.

- b. State Trooper Walsh – Mentioned increase in I.D. Thefts, Drug Activity and Vacant House Break-in on Perryville Road.

10. PUBLIC HEARING - None**11. OLD BUSINESS - None****12. NEW ORDINANCE – None**

13. CONSENT AGENDA: All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by the Township Committee and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item would be removed from the consent Agenda and will be considered separate.

a. **RESOLUTION #2015-50**

UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY

**AUTHORIZING 2015 PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT –GEOLOGIST/HYDROGEOLOGIST
CONSULTANT**

Eric DeRicco, Cherry, Weber & Associates

WHEREAS, the Township of Union has a need to acquire hydrogeologic services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A.19:44-A-20.5; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined and certified in writing that the value of the acquisition will exceed \$17,500; and

WHEREAS, anticipated term of this contract is one year; and

WHEREAS Cherry, Weber & Associates has completed and submitted a Business Entity Disclosure Certification which certifies that Cherry, Weber & Associates has not made any reportable contributions to a political or candidate committee in the Township of Union in the previous one year, and that the contract will prohibit Cherry, Weber & Associates from making any reportable contributions through the term of the contract; and

WHEREAS, the Township Chief Financial Officer has certified to the governing body the availability of funds for said contract in a line item entitled Planning Board, OE; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee authorizes the Mayor and the Clerk to enter into a contract with Cherry, Weber & Associates, for hydrogeologic consulting services for 2015 at the hourly rate of \$133.00; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Business Disclosure Entity Certification and the Determination of Value be placed on file with this resolution; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Notice of this action shall be printed once in the official newspaper of this municipality.

Date: March 18, 2015

**CERTIFICATION AS TO AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS
UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY**

As required by N.J.S.A. 40A:4-57, N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.1 et seq., I, Grace M. Brennan, Chief Financial Officer of the Township of Union, have ascertained that there are available sufficient uncommitted appropriated funds in the 2015 Temporary/Adopted Budget to award a contract Cherry, Weber & Associates, under the line item "_____".

Date: _____

Grace M. Brennan, CFO

b. RESOLUTION #2015-51

UNION TOWNSHIP, HUNTERDON COUNTY

APPOINTMENT – DEPUTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

WHEREAS, the Township of Union is currently in need of an Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator; and

WHEREAS, Anthony Mayer is qualified for this position;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union to appoint Anthony Mayer to the position of Deputy Emergency Management Coordinator for the remainder of the 2015- 1-year term beginning on March 16, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			

Motion Carried

End of Consent Agenda

14. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Discussion:** - 2015 Municipal Budget – The Committee discussed Capital portion of the budget at length. CFO Brennan apprised the Committee of options. Mrs. Brennan said she could prepare a Capital Improvement Ordinance for introduction at the April 1, 2015 Committee meeting.

A straw poll vote was taken to prepare Capital Improvement Ordinance.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino				X		
Mr. Hirt	X		X			
Ms. McBride		X	X			
Mr. Bischoff				X		
Mr. Mazza			X			

Motion Carried

CFO Brennan asked for decision on the request from Town of Clinton to contribute additional funds toward purchase of the new Fire Truck: Mayor Mazza said he had been approached by the Mayor of Town of Clinton asking for \$4,100.00. After a brief discussion, the following motion was introduced:

To contribute additional \$2,900.00 to the Town of Clinton Fire Dept. towards purchase of new Fire Truck

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X		X		
Mr. Hirt				X		
Ms. McBride	X		X			
Mr. Bischoff				X		
Mr. Mazza					X	

Motion Defeated

b. **Discussion:** - NJ Supreme Court Ruling on COAH

- Atty. Jost said the Ruling should be discussed in Executive Session because of potential litigation.

15. REPORTS

a. **Attorney's Report**

- Union Hill - Reconstruction of the burned out units is progressing.
- Fire Department Ordinance – Still waiting for response from the Department's Attorney.
- Personnel Manual - Re-write received from Labor Attorney – Mrs. Brennan and Mr. Bischoff will be copied.
- Land Use Zoning Changes recommended by Planning Board being reviewed by Committee.
- Personal/Business Tax Appeal for United Telephone – Sought authorization to file appeal with Hunterdon County. The following motion was introduced for approval:

To refile United Telephone 2015 Tax Appeal with the HC Board of Taxation and subsequently the Tax Court.

Voice Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X				
Mr. Hirt						
Ms. McBride						
Mr. Bischoff	X					
Mr. Mazza						

Motion Carried by unanimous voice call vote.

- Lookout Pointe Treatment Works Application – A potential conflict of interest with Mr. Clerico and alternate Engineer Cathleen Marcelli reviewing the application was discussed. Clerk said the application has to be signed as soon as possible. After discussion the following motion was introduced for approval:

To authorize the Mayor to sign the above-mentioned application.

Voice Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X					

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING March 18, 2015

Mr. Hirt						
Ms. McBride		X				
Mr. Bischoff						
Mr. Mazza						

Motion Carried by unanimous voice call vote.

- Matter for Executive Session - COAH

b. Committee Reports

Mr. Hirt reported the following:

- Red Hills Quarry Sheriff's Sale – March 25, 2015
- Derelict Houses – Information not readily available
- 911 Concern - Mentioned problems with identifying properties on Gyuro Lane for emergency access. Lane is a private road. Atty. Jost asked the following motion be introduced for approval:

To authorize posting of sign for Gyuro Lane as a private lane for emergency services.

Voice Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino	X					
Mr. Hirt						
Ms. McBride		X				
Mr. Bischoff						
Mr. Mazza						

Motion Carried by unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Severino reported the following:

- Mentioned Lisa Coster resigned from the Hunterdon County Solid Waste Advisory Committee and that he will be replacing her.
- Purchased card reader for license plate detecting security cameras. Working well.
- Animal Control Report – State Police picked up dog in Pohatcong Twp. and brought it to the Barracks. Pohatcong ACO was not responsive. Ms. Roerig handled the matter. Mr. Severino asked the Committee's permission to contact Pohatcong Mayor regarding the matter. The Committee was amenable.
- Building Moisture Problems – Semi-retired mason inspected and made recommendations to resolve matter. Removal of mulch and shrubs around building, re-grading and removal of a portion of the sidewalk were mentioned. De-humidifiers and installation of a pump in the basement were suggestions.

Mr. Bischoff reported the following:

- Quote: "If you don't read the newspaper, you are uninformed; if you read the newspaper you are misinformed" – Mark Twain.
- Working on amending Ordinance for Description and Duties of the Zoning Officer Position, as well as Integration and the transition between the DCA and zoning.

Ms. McBride reported the following:

- 319 Grant – Princeton-Hydro will not be involved with the Grant. NJ Water Supply Authority will be resubmitting last year's grant application for Country Acres Detention Basin and the Union Township Middle School.
- UTEC - Considering re-applying for ANJEC Grant for trees for Municipal Parking Lot in Jutland. Wildflowers would also be considered.
- Mentioned GovDeals.com Auction – If Committee agrees, Ms. McBride will prepare a list of items to be auctioned. She will work with the Clerk and Mr. Hermann.

c. Mayor's Report

- Asked for approval of the following Proclamation for UT Middle School Girls Soccer Team

PROCLAMATION

UNION TOWNSHIP MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM (TIGERS)

UNDEFEATED CHAMPIONS IN NORTH HUNTERDON-VOORHEES ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

WHEREAS, the Union Township Committee, Hunterdon County, hereby recognizes the Union Township Middle School Girls Soccer Team for claiming the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Athletic Conference Championship Title for 2014/2015; and

WHEREAS, the final score against Tewksbury was 2-1, the Tigers were undefeated this season against other schools in the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Athletic Conference; and

WHEREAS, a lot of hard work went into the winning performance and the team spent hours of practice after school and were dedicated to playing basketball in an effort to achieve this goal; and

WHEREAS, the Team members serve as role models to all youth and their dedication to practice, teamwork, high goals, hard work and mental attitude serve as an example to North Hunterdon-Voorhees Athletic Conference students; and

WHEREAS, students and supporting staff of the Union Township Middle School have shown great leadership and dedication.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FRANK MAZZA, Mayor of the Township of Union, in the County of Hunterdon, State of New Jersey, do hereby recognize the Union Township Middle School Girls Tigers Soccer Team for claiming the North Hunterdon-Voorhees Athletic Conference Championship Title for the 2014/2015 season.

GIVEN, under my hand and seal of the Township of Union, as
of this 18th day of March 2015

By: _____
Frank Mazza, Mayor

Voice Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino						
Mr. Hirt		X				
Ms. McBride						

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING March 18, 2015

Mr. Bischoff	X					
Mr. Mazza						

Motion Carried by unanimous voice call vote.

- Mentioned number of trains traversing the Township.

d. Clerk's Report

- Kathy Hale's office picked up letter regarding the 319 Grant.

16. PUBLIC COMMENTS – none at this time

17. PAYMENTS OF BILLS

The approved list of bills and all claims against the Township of Union as appearing in the Claims Register of this date paid and that all checks listed hereinafter issued in payment thereof.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino			X			
Mr. Hirt		X	X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			

Motion Carried

18. EXECUTIVE SESSION –

The following Resolution introduced for adoption:

RESOLUTION #2015-52

Providing for a Meeting Not Open to the Public in Accordance with the Provisions of the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Union is subject to certain requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6, et. seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10-4-12, provides that an Executive Session, not open to the public, may be held for certain specified purposes when authorized by Resolution; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Township Committee of the Township of Union to discuss in a session not open to the public certain matters relating to the item or items authorized by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b and designated below:

1. _____ Matters Required by Law to be Confidential: Any matter which, by express provision of Federal law or State statute or rule of court shall be rendered confidential or excluded from the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act.
2. _____ Matters Where the Release of Information Would Impair the Right to Receive Funds: Any matter in which the release of information would impair a right to receive funds from the Government of the United States.

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING March 18, 2015

3. _____Matters Involving Individual Privacy: Any material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy such as any records, data, reports, recommendations, or other personal material of any educational, training, social service, medical, health, custodial, child protection, rehabilitation, legal defense, welfare, housing, relocation, insurance and similar program or institution operated by a public body pertaining to any specific individual admitted to or served by such institution or program, including but not limited to information relative to the individual's personal and family circumstances, and any material pertaining to admission, discharge, treatment, progress or condition of any individual, unless the individual concerned (or, in the case of a minor or incompetent, his guardian) shall request in writing that the same be disclosed publicly.
4. _____Matters Relating to Collective Bargaining Agreements: Any collective bargaining agreement, or the terms and conditions which are proposed for inclusion in any collective bargaining agreement, including the negotiation of the terms and conditions thereof with employees or representatives of employees of the public body.
5. _____Matters Relating to the Purchase, Lease or Acquisition of Real Property or the Investment of Public Funds: Any matter involving the purchase, lease or acquisition of real property with public funds, the setting of banking rates or investment of public funds, where it could adversely affect the public interest if discussion of such matters were disclosed.
6. _____Matters Relating to Public Safety and Property: Any tactics and techniques utilized in protecting the safety and property of the public, provided that their disclosure could impair such protection. Any investigations of violations of possible violations of the law.
7. X Matters Relating to Litigation, Negotiations and the Attorney-Client Privilege: Any pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation in which the public body is, or may become a party. Any matters falling within the attorney-client privilege, to the extent that confidentiality is required in order for the attorney to exercise his ethical duties as a lawyer.
8. _____ Matters Relating to the Employment Relationship: Any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of the performance of promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the public body, unless all the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected request in writing that such matter or matters be discussed at a public meeting.
9. _____Matters Relating to the Potential Imposition of a Penalty: Any deliberations of a public body occurring after a public hearing that may result in the imposition of a specific civil penalty upon the responding party or the suspension or loss of a license or permit belonging to the responding party bears responsibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Union, assembled in public session on March 18, 2015 at 9:12 p.m. in the Union Township Municipal Building, 140 Perryville Road, Hampton, New Jersey, for the discussion of matters relating to the specific items designated above.

It is anticipated that the deliberations conducted in closed session may be disclosed to the public upon the determination of the Township Committee that the public interest will no longer be served by such confidentiality.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING March 18, 2015

Motion Carried

The Committee returned to regular meeting session at 9:20 p.m.

Roll Call Vote	Moved	Seconded	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Mr. Severino		X	X			
Mr. Hirt			X			
Ms. McBride			X			
Mr. Bischoff	X		X			
Mr. Mazza			X			

Motion Carried

Mr. Severino inquired about the condition of the road at Lookout Pointe. He asked if Toll Bros. had any obligations/bonds for road maintenance. Mr. Clerico will review the matter.

19. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Township Committee at this time Mr. Bischoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:23 p.m. Mr. Severino seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous favorable roll call vote.

Prepared by: Grace Kocher, Deputy Clerk

Frank Mazza, Mayor